Appl. No.

09/698,489

Filed

October 26, 2000

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application. Applicant acknowledges that this application is under Final Rejection. However, the present Amendment merely places the application in condition for allowance. No further substantive examination is necessary. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this Amendment and allow this application.

Claims 1, 7, 10, 62, 66-81 and 114-128 are pending in the application. Applicant has canceled Claims 82-113 and 129. Applicant has amended Claim 114. Applicant's claim cancellations and amendments are shown on the pages above following the heading AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS. On these pages, the [[deletions are double bracketed]] while the insertions are underlined.

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 1, 7, 10, 62 and 66-81 are allowed. The Examiner has also indicated that Claim 129 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As shown above, Applicant has added the limitations of former Claim 129 (now canceled) into Claim 114. Claim 114 is, therefore, now allowable. Claims 115-128, which depend from allowable Claim 114, are also allowable.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 82-128. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's grounds for rejecting these claims. Nevertheless, in order to expedite the issuance of the allowed claims, Applicant has canceled Claims 82-113. Claims 114-128, as amended, are allowable, as explained above.

PAGE 10/10 * RCVD AT 3/22/2004 6:16:48 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * 5VR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/3 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID: * DURATION (mm-55):02-28

Appl. No.

09/698,489

Filed

October 26, 2000

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, and Applicant earnestly requests such action. If there is any further hindrance to allowance of the pending claims, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: $\sqrt{5-22}$

Βv

Scott Loras Murray Registration No. 53,360

Attorney of Record

Customer No. 20,995

(949) 760-0404

H:\DOC\$\\$HL\\$HL-9102.DOC 032204